

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 15265 131714Z  
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W  
-----078357 131714Z /53

O 131655Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9388

S E C R E T CAIRO 15265

NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2  
TAGS: MARR, US, EG, IT  
SUBJECT: MIG MAINTENANCE AND THE CONGRESS

REF: STATE 218661

1. REFTEL JUST RECEIVED. SINCE SADAT IS STILL IN CANAL ZONE, I HAVE NO WAY OF GETTING MESSAGE DIRECTLY TO HIM. HENCE, I CONTACTED FAHMY AT HIS HOME ON SECURE PHONE AND TOLD HIM OF TOMORROW'S HAMILTON SUB-COMMITTEE HEARING IN WHICH HARD QUESTIONS ARE LIKELY TO BE ASKED RE PLANS FOR MAINTENANCE OF EGYPTIAN MIG AIRCRAFT. OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO SATISFY LEGITIMATE CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN THIS MATTER WHILE AT SAME TIME RESPECTING POLITICAL AND MILITARY SENSITIVITIES OF GOE.

2. I INDICATED ROY ATHERTON WILL BE TESTIFYING AND GAVE HIM DETAILS OF OUR PLANS FOR HANDLING ISSUE (PARA 3 A-F). TOLD HIM THAT, IN OUR JUDGMENT, THIS IS BEST WAY TO HANDLE SUBJECT WITH DUE REGARD TO CONCERNS OF ALL PARTIES INVOLVED. I ASKED THAT HE GET WORD OF THIS TO THE PRESIDENT ASAP.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 CAIRO 15265 131714Z

3. FAHMY ASKED IF WE ARE INFORMING THE ITALIANS. I TOLD HIM WE ARE DOING SO, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT IN SPEAKING OF THIRD COUNTRIES, WE ARE NOT MENTIONING ITALY BY NAME.

4. FAHMY THEN SAID THAT HE HAD NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE.

HE ASKED, HOWEVER, THAT ATHERTON NOT VOLUNTEER THIS INFORMATION. IF HE IS PUSHED HARD ON THE SUBJECT AND IS UNABLE TO DIVERT THE INQUIRY, THEN THE ANSWERS WE PROPOSE MIGHT BE GIVEN. ASSURED HIM THIS IS SOLE BASIS ON WHICH ATHERTON WILL MAKE POINTS. FAHMY UNDERTOOK TO LET THE PRESIDENT KNOW SOON AS HE NEXT SEES HIM (THIS MAY NOT BE FOR A DAY OR TWO). WHILE FAHMY WOULD OBVIOUSLY PREFER THAT NOTHING BE SAID, IT WAS CLEAR THAT HE WAS NOT OVERLY CONCERNED IF SUCH A DISCLOSURE HAS TO BE MADE.

5. RE PARA REFTTEL, IN UK AMBASSADOR'S ABSENCE ON LEAVE, HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH UK CHARGE MOON. HE WILL COME BY TOMORROW MORNING, AT WHICH TIME I WILL BRIEF HIM.  
EILTS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, US CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS, AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE, CAT-B  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 13-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977CAIRO15265  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR  
**Executive Order:** X2  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** P850052-1921  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** CAIRO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770971/aaaachwi.tel  
**Line Count:** 76  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** a34b0548-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NODS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 218661  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 31-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1299633  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MIG MAINTENANCE AND THE CONGRESS  
**TAGS:** MARR, EAID, MMOL, PGOV, US, EG, IT, (ATHERTON, ROY)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/a34b0548-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009